



Coronation celebrations in Coronation Street 1953

Cambridge ROYALS Chronicle, by Mike Petty

A chronology of some Royal visitors and other VIPs as reported in Cambridge Newspapers

1888

1888 01 15

Prince & Princess of Wales visit with their children, take lunch at Fitzwilliam Museum [1888 01 15, 2.24]

1897

1897 04 03 c

After the lapse of close upon a month the committee appointed to carry out the celebration of the Great Jubilee (of Queen Victoria) in Cambridge have definitely decided upon a single scheme. The course adopted has the effect of putting out of court our scheme for the establishment of a system of private and swimming baths as a Jubilee undertaking. But considering the remarkable unanimity of opinion on the subject we feel sure that the project will be only temporarily waived. Indeed having regard to the the absolute necessity in the town we pledge ourselves to revive the matter at the first convenient opportunity. Very little difficulty would be experienced in floating a company to carry out a scheme so universally deemed desirable. (Editorial) c1897 04 10

1897 06 04

The Queen Victoria's Jubilee Free Dinner Committee, having placed their fund for feeding the aged on a satisfactory footing, have determined to give a free tea to the children of Cambridge between the

ages of 7 and 14. It is fitting that the children of the town, the inheritors of the wonderful empire that has been built up and its future guardians, should have indelibly impressed on their minds the greatest landmark in modern English history – Editorial c1897 06 04

1897 06 07

A good number of people are attending the fete on Midsummer Common. In that part of the enclosure nearest Maid's Causeway, shooting galleries, stalls, cocoanut shies and one of Thurston's steam roundabouts were gathered and kept matters lively. During the afternoon a fancy dress bicycle carnival took place, handsome prizes were awarded for the best costumes. The first prize for the ladies, a diamond and ruby crescent brooch, was awarded to Miss L. Unwin of Newnham who, with helmet, breastplate, shield and trident made a dignified Britannia. Miss Unwin will also receive the silver "King of the Road" lamp and baby bell given by the Humber Cycle Supply Co 1897 06 07

1897 06 19

Cambridge will have its bonfire on Jubilee night and from the nature of the site we shall have it all to ourselves. Midsummer Common is to be the venue, and as that is about the flattest part of Cambridge there is not much prospect of its being seen beyond the limits of the town, although should the fire be a big one and the night fairly dark, the glow in the sky ought to be seen all over the fen country. One of the most interesting experiments will be that of the search-light on Ely cathedral. The great shaft of light sent out by the search-light, first in one direction and then another, should send a message not only to Cambridge, but over a great portion of East Anglia – editorial 1897 06 19

1897 06 23

Providence set the seal of approval on the absolutely flawless celebration of Queen Victoria's Jubilee. Cambridge Market-place presented a particularly attractive spectacle with the Guildhall illuminated and the long lines of coloured lamps; above all with the moving masses of eager folk, who had come out in the best of tempers to be amused. One or two cranky people pretended to be shocked at the extreme naughtiness of letting off a few squibs, which was not to be compared with the imprudence of running heavy 'busses through the narrow and crowded Cury and Market-hill. A remarkably beautiful sunset was succeeded by the exquisite Jubilee twilight mingling into the dawn of the longest day; and in Cambridge, as elsewhere, everybody who went to bed - and most folks sought that sensible repose – did so with high hopes of the morrow 1897 06 23

1897 06 23

The festivities in Cambridge (for Victoria's Jubilee) were inaugurated on Monday evening with a cyclists' lantern parade and a more successful commencement it would have been difficult to suggest. Over a hundred cyclists attended by far the greater portion being in costume or having their machines decorated. The cyclists assembled in the Priory Grounds, Newmarket-road. A large crowd gathered in the neighbourhood and hailed with applause the decorated machines as they approached. The first prize for the best decorated machine was awarded to Mr Dunn who had made his machine represent the Indian jungle. A deer's head was shown from the front of the machine in the middle of grasses and evergreen, while behind, monkeys sported among the ferns and vegetation. Mr Dunn himself was attired in the garb of a hunter 1897 06 23

1897 06 24

One of the most interesting events of the Jubilee week was the dinner to 1,000 aged people of Cambridge which took place on Parker's Piece. From 10 a.m. an army of helpers 400 strong, all as busy as bees, were engaged in preparing the tents, two in number, for the expected guests. The old people began to arrive very early, with beaming faces and expectant eyes. "It's not the dinner so much", said an old lady of some 75 summers, "It's taking part in the Jubilee dinner and meeting with all the others". Gowns of antique stuff, redolent of sweet lavender, that had lain by for years protected against the ravages of moth, were brought out in honour of the occasion. One old gentleman had hunted up a pair of white jean trousers that he went courting in 50 years ago 1897 06 24

1897 06 25

It is a matter of satisfaction that the subscriptions which have been received by the Jubilee Dinner Committee were sufficient to give a tea to some 4,000 school children of Cambridge between the ages of seven and 12. A mug and plate was provided for each child, and the plates when they sat down were furnished with bread and butter and two lumps of cake. Once in the enclosure they were each presented with a medal commemorating the Jubilee. Until tea commenced the enclosure was a perfect babel with the children's' chatter. Far more children than expected came, and some of the school teachers had written their own tickets. Not a few of the children attending were obviously either over or under the age which had been decided. All were soon provided for and the committee were able to keep replenishing the tables. As they finished tea the children left the tables, and, shouting, romped and danced to the band's music. The sight was enough to set the milk of human kindness surging through the heart of the most misguided misanthrope 1897 06 25

Here and there among the little folk : impressions of an onlooker. The five immense tents pitched on Parker's Piece were crammed with youngsters full of the restless energy of youth. What a sight it was to see them come dancing down the various roads leading to Parker's Piece, swarming over the iron fences, racing across the greensward, and roguishly crying the policemen on duty in the vicinity of the feast. Not one could walk sedately or cease from whistling for very joy. The desertion of teachers, the near approach of the end of the Jubilee holiday, everything was forgotten in the delight of the children's day 1897 06 25

In commemoration of the Great Jubilee of her Majesty, a meat tea was provided for poor married couples residing in the East Ward of Chesterton. A field belonging to Mr R.H. Lord on Scotland-road was secured for the occasion. Some 500 adults sat down to the meat tea which consisted of rounds of beef, legs of mutton and hams.. The meat had been admirably cooked in the kitchens of Clare College. After tea the men were supplied with tobacco, tobacco boxes and pipes and snuff and snuff boxes while strawberries were provided for the women 1897 06 25

1898

1898 05 28

There was but little crush as the stream of mourners poured from all quarters of the town into Great St Mary's Church for the Memorial Service to Mr Gladstone. A subdued calm seem to fall like a veil over the centre of Cambridge as the bell tolled forth its tale of loss to the nation, and a hush, as it were, of the chamber of death seemed even to spread itself over the busy market place. Quietly the people filed into the Church and stepped into the first empty pew; none stopping to haggle for a seat. Even as the doors were being closed, as the last bars of the echoing National Anthem waned to silence, latecomers yet found room in one or other of the galleries, and no one was turned from the Church CDN 1898 05 28

1898 11 24

Great crowds had been assembling outside Great St Mary's and the railings before the Senate House with the exception of a pathway of about five yards which the police were endeavouring to keep clear for those attending the honorary degree ceremony for Lord Kitchener. It was evidence that the constables were having hard work in keeping the crowds from encroaching. At length the looked-for rush took place and such was the force that the police were quite powerless to check it. A general scramble to get upon the railings ensued when without the slightest warning the railings suddenly gave way and fell outwards carrying many unfortunate persons to the ground with them. The solidity of this great piece of ironwork is well known and it is wonderful that more were not seriously injured. CDN 1898 11 24 1898, 1898 11 28, Rev Yr, 24 03 06] 57 12 14c and more memories – 57 12 28

1898 12 13

The members of her family share with Queen Victoria a dislike to all unnecessary fuss and show. The Empress Frederick paid a visit to Cambridge yesterday, took a drive through the streets and left, but hardly anybody knew we had had a Royal visitor. So much of the lives of those who are in this high station is of necessity lived in public that one can well understand how glad they are to avoid, in as far

as it is possible, the observation of the crowd. Cambridge would gladly have done her honour but it is a matter for satisfaction that the Empress's own will in regard to her visit was carried out so faithfully
CDN 1898 12 13

1899

1899 05 24

Today, Queen Victoria attains her 80th birthday, and British subjects in all parts of her Majesty's dominions are celebrating the occasion. Cambridge has not attempted anything in the nature of a public demonstration. This was not to be expected, but Cambridge is none the less loyal on that account, and there are in almost all parts of the town, outward and visible signs of rejoicing. Numerous Union Jacks and other national emblems are displayed in the principal thoroughfares, and the church bells have all been rung in honour of the event. At the Roman Catholic Church the national anthem was chimed between 12 and 1 o'clock, and the ringing of the bells may be expected to continue at intervals throughout the day 1899 05 24

1899 06 21

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is visiting his old University this evening. His arrival by the express from St Pancras was witness by a moderately large crowd, which was not particularly enthusiastic in its reception. The Master of Trinity received him as he stepped from the train. The Prince raised his hat in acknowledgement and then looked round expectantly at the line of spectators. No cheer, however, was raised until he was being driven away in an open carriage 1899 06 21

1900

1900 05 14

The King of Sweden and Norway will doubtless carry away with him many pleasant reminiscences of his visit to Cambridge. The object of King Oscar's visit, as the guest of the Master of Trinity, was quite a private one. The University however were unwilling that the occasion should be allowed to pass without doing honour to their illustrious visitor, and it was resolved to confer upon the King the honorary degree of Doctor in Law. A large crowd gathered around the Senate House. The galleries were thronged with undergraduates and the floor of the house given up to ladies whose summer dresses contributed materially to the brightness of the scene
CDN 1900 05 14

1901

1901 01 23

The melancholy news, which everyone knew could not be long delayed, of the death of Queen Victoria, was received in Cambridge in this brief announcement: - "The Queen passed away at 6.30". The Cambridge Daily News gave publicity to the melancholy event to those who in Cambridge were waiting with anxiety for the latest intelligence, and almost immediately telegrams were posted at the University Union Society and at the Guildhall. The tolling of bells at many of the churches and college chapels also served to spread the sad news and this morning the borough bore a complete aspect of mourning for the loss of our beloved Queen. Royal Standards are flying half-mast and black ties and other emblems of mourning are being worn by members of the University and the townsmen
CDN 1901 01 23

1901 01 26

With the solemnities and ceremonies accustomed on like occasions, His Majesty King Edward VII was proclaimed by the University of Cambridge in succession to Victoria, the Well-Beloved. This morning, while the minute bell was mournfully tolling, while black shutters were up at almost every shop window and flags were at half-mast, crowds of scarlet-robed Doctors, sedate Dons and vivacious undergraduates were hurrying towards the Senate House to take part in the ceremony of a lifetime – to proclaim Edward VII King CDN 1901 01 26

Amid every sign of loyalty and with great enthusiasm, Cambridge publicly and impressively proclaimed King Edward VII. The unusual attraction naturally brought a vast crowd together, winding

their way to the Guildhall which was accessible to all who presented themselves for admission and the building was soon crowded with a throng of sightseers, the majority being in deep mourning 01 01 26

1901 02 12

Mourning for death of Queen Victoria; Addenbrooke's Hospital propose a new wing as memorial (plans abandoned 1904) 01 02 12 [1.11,01 05 06 Rev Yr,1.17]

1901 05 09

The Mayor of Cambridge called a meeting to consider a memorial to Queen Victoria. The large hall of the Guildhall was prepared but there were scarcely a dozen people present and as they appeared lost in the hall, a move was made to the Aldermen's Parlour. The Mayor said it was a very great disappointment to him; he had written letters, placed advertisements and issued handbills. The memory of her Majesty would remain with all of her subjects but they wished for a visible memorial by which future generations might see how deeply Queen Victorian reigned in the lives and affections of her subjects 01 05 09

1902

1902 06 24

The startling and unwelcome intelligence that the Coronation of King Edward VII had been postponed, owing to him having to undergo an operation, created a great sensation in Cambridge. Those who first heard were incredulous and treated the matter as a mere rumour. Scores of enquiries were received at the News by telephone. Crowds assembled round the type-written announcements that were displayed and turned away with expressions of mingled astonishment and pain. CDN 1902 06 24

1902 06 27

Never before has Cambridge Corn Exchange been the scene of such a curious sight as when a distribution was made of the large quantity of food intended to form part of the feast to the old folks in celebration of the Coronation. When the news of its postponement was received the cooking of the food had already begun. Several hundred of the poorest inhabitants gathered outside the front gates of the Corn Exchange as quickly as their too-evident infirmities would allow them. Quite a number wrapped quantities of fruit tart in grimy newspapers that could hardly have improved their semi-liquid contents CDN 1902 06 27

1902 06 28

As soon as the King's illness was announced volumes of telegrams commenced to pour into the Cambridge office. On Tuesday no fewer than 350 telegrams were waiting to come through from London and the abnormal pressure was kept up until Friday. Press wires, commercial wires and private telegrams increased at such a rate that in order to cope with them employees from the postal department were drafted into the telegraph department. Even then it was only by working at very high pressure, and working overtime, that the staff were able to get through their task. 02 06 30

1902 06 30

An alarming report was widely current in Cambridge that his Majesty had succumbed to his operation. One credulous tradesman actually put a shutter up on the strength of an absolutely unofficial report to that effect, which was posted on a shop window adjacent to the office of the Cambridge Independent Press. The tradesman was Mr C.S. Addison who is indignant at being credited with the responsibility of making the erroneous announcement. He had absolutely nothing to do with the report except that he gave permission to the Independent Press to exhibit upon his shop front any intelligence that might come to hand. The announcement caused much pain and indignation & ought not to be made except on the receipt of official news & certainly not upon the strength of a mere rumour. 02 06 30

1902 07 18

Now his Majesty is on the high road to recovery many places are holding the festivities arranged in celebration of the Coronation. Out of sympathy for King Edward these were postponed and now while the bright summer days and long mild evenings are at their best the committees are taking the wise course of holding the jubilations rather than wait until a later stage in the year when there is a greater chance of unfavourable weather. Unfortunately St John's ward, Cherry Hinton picked upon early closing day and any shop employee will say that this is practically synonymous with rain. Nevertheless the festivities must be written of as a success. CDN 1902 07 18

1902 07 22

The problem of the general servant is with us always. The tyranny of the domestic, her varying moods and fluctuating caprices seemingly know no end. Her demands have gradually become more peremptory and extensive for some years past and housekeepers have become painfully familiar with Sundays off, evenings out, cycles in the kitchen and swains in constant evidence. The Cambridge autocrats of the kitchen are now going a step further; the very latest request is a week's holiday at the Coronation. It is not stated whether the majority of them propose attending the Abbey 02 07 22

1902 07 28

The people of Old Cherryhinton participated in festivities in celebration of the Coronation. They took the form of sports and a tea, besides various minor amusements, while music entered largely into the scheme of pleasure. 900 people availed themselves of the opportunity to take tea which took place in a large erection constructed of canvas under trees in a meadow. Beside this temporary tea-room stood a traction engine with steam up but it was not attached to any bread-cutting arrangement such as might have been necessary to cope with the extraordinary demand. It was used to boil water for the tea. CDN 1902 07 28

1902 08 11

The venerable University town can have scarcely witness such a scene as animated gaiety as on Coronation Day. Street after street was bright with flags and blazing in a brave show of scarlet and white and blue. Visitors poured in by road and rail, in vehicles and on foot until it seemed as though the population of Cambridgeshire must have drifted en masse into the town and left the surrounding country empty and desolate. To and fro though the narrow streets, laughing, talking and singing the gay crowds eddied and swirled CDN 1902 08 11

1902 09 05

Yesterday young Cambridge celebrated the coronation of King Edward VII. Half of Parker's Piece was covered with twelve tents and soon the happy throng was taking tea to the strains of music furnished by the Cambridge Police Band. Over 800 gallons of tea were brewed, roughly 6,400 pints. For 6,000 children the quantity was abundant. The Mayor distributed commemorative medals which will doubtless remain treasured possessions for many a year. The centre tent contained a large number of people who were present at Queen Victoria's Coronation CDN 1902 09 05

1902 09 06

The Mayor of Cambridge, Alderman Kett made a tour of sixteen schools for the purpose of distributing Coronation medals to the infant scholars. It had been suggested that they should also be given a tea in the tents on Parker's Piece but it was felt that little mites of four could hardly be expected to walk to and from the Piece and it was more advisable to provide tea for them at the various schoolrooms. At East Road school tea had to be provided for 250 infants and the cutting up of the large quantity of bread and cake entailed several hours for work for the teachers. CDN 1902 09 06

1903

1903 01 20

The visit of General Sir John French will remain memorable for his reception by all sections of the inhabitants. The famous cavalry leader was sought after, first at the railway station when he arrived

and later when he proceeded to the Guildhall where he received the freedom of the Borough. Lord Kitchener's is the first name on the roll of Cambridge Freeman and it's fitting that the name of General French should follow his illustrious Commander in the South African war. Many who have already been presented with the freedom have served under him and learned to admire him as an ideal commander who never asked them to do what he was not prepared to do himself. 03 01 20

1904

1904 03 01

All Cambridge united in welcoming King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra to open the new University buildings known as the Sedgwick Museum, the Squire Law Library, Botanical and Medical Schools in Downing Street. Cambridge University has never stagnated but kept pace with the demands of the time. Newer universities have their place in the general scheme of things but they can never supplant our ancient university of Cambridge, nor her twin sister on the banks of the Isis. With the increasing spread of education their prosperity increases. Windows overlooking parade route offered at 5/- (25p) a head, drop to 1/- (05p) as no takers; in event Royal party travel in closed carriages due to weather. 04 03 01

1904 03 02

The Royal visit to Cambridge was followed by an undergraduate 'rag' which caused wanton destruction of public and private property even though a large body of police, included mounted men, were on duty. One policeman guarding the proctors was singled out for a little 'baiting'. As they surged around he took out his baton which was immediately snatched from his hand. Now unprotected the affair seemed likely to develop into a serious disturbance but mounted policemen began to harry the crowd who fled before the horsemen. Many youths annoyed the riders by throwing crackers near their horses. One animal was so startled by an explosion that it threw its rider and careered across Parker's Piece. 04 03 02

1904 03 07

Owing to the enormous demands for the C.D.N. souvenir of the Royal Visit to Cambridge the whole edition was sold out less than an hour after publication. Now in response to enormous requests a second edition is ready. It contains a full report of the proceedings together with special articles on previous royal visits, King Edward's undergraduate days etc. It has photographs of the new Downing Street buildings reproduced from the series of pictures specially taken by J. Palmer Clarke for presentation to the King. Printed on superior paper and being of a convenient size it is an admirable memento of the auspicious and historic occasion. 04 03 07

1904 06 16

At the death of Queen Victoria, a little more than three years ago, the Mayor of Cambridge started a subscription to provide a memorial. Plans for a substantial improvement at the hospital had to be abandoned but they agreed to procure a bust of the Queen from Thomas Brock. It was a magnificent work of art by one of the leading sculptors of their generation which the Corporation would always treasure. It would be an ornament to the Guildhall and retain an honourable position in that building as long as it lasted and then take a more distinguished position in more sumptuous surroundings. 1904 06 16

1905

1905 05 20

The King was involved in an exciting scene at the conclusion of racing at Newmarket. Within a few minutes of the finish of the last race a steady stream of traffic poured from the Heath townwards, and in the dozens of vehicles of all sorts and description was the royal equipage. The vagaries of a motor car caused a sudden halt and although the driver of the King's carriage pulled up promptly the horse pulling one behind struck the King a sharp blow in the back with its head. His Majesty, though naturally startled and shaken was not at all injured. 05 05 20

1905 10 23

Nelson Day in Cambridge was marked by flags and on Sunday references to his life and death were made in many of the churches. On Saturday evening a partially successful attempt at a rag was made by a number of University and town youths, thus amply justifying the Mayor's decision not to promote any public demonstration which might have provided the necessary excitement for a serious disturbance. 05 10 23a

1905 10 23

Because a hundred years ago Horatio Nelson won the Battle of Trafalgar, the youths of Cambridge, University and town, united in a 'rag' in which the destruction of property was a necessary element. Two constables were mauled by the mob, one at the Parsonage Street fire and the other at the Park Parade fire, but are little the worse for the rough handling they received. A tram was stormed by a large number of undergraduates; dozens of them clambered on to the vehicle until it was a black mass of struggling beings. But despite the heavy load the horse managed to crawl along. 05 10 23b-c

1906

1906 01 01

Painting of Queen Victoria unveiled (removed from Council Chamber in 1930) [06 01 01 Rev Yr, 30 07 19]

1906 07 03

The King concluded his visit to the Earl of Sandwich at Hinchingsbrooke Park and drove in his motor car to Newmarket. On his way through Cambridge the royal car was purposely driven more slowly than usual which enabled many people to catch a glimpse of His Majesty. He proceeded to Sir Ernest Cassel's house, Moulton Paddocks, where a Japanese garden with rustic bridges and dwarf trees has been recently added. 06 07 03a

1906 10 15

The King had an excellent day's sport on the famous partridge grounds at Chippenham Park, which Sir Ernest Cassel has leased. Birds were numerous and strong on the wing. His Majesty rode on his pony from point to point and displayed his usual precision of aim. The bag included 669 partridges, 88 pheasants and 82 hares. 06 10 15

1907

1907 01 30

Last week one of His Majesty's motors passing through Ely ran over and killed a dog owned by Mr A. Feast. Mr G.M. Hall brought the matter before the King who, with his customary generosity, has forwarded Mr Feast £5. This is characteristic of his Majesty and is only one of many incidents which have done so much to endear him to his people. 07 01 30

1907 09 30

Magdalene welcomes member English Royal Family as undergraduate for first time – Prince Leopold of Battenberg – 07 09 30b

1907 11 11

King Alphonso and Queen Victoria of Spain visited Prince Leopold of Battenberg who is studying at Magdalene College. Their Majesties toured in motor cars, Prince Leopold, clad as a typical undergraduate in blue lounge suit, brown boots and cloth cap, sat backing the chauffeur while the King was in the dress of an English gentleman playing a ceremonious call and the Queen wore a mauve dress almost covered with a sable coat. 07 11 11

1908

1908 04 11

Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by the Dowager Empress of Russia, passed through Cambridge station, where a small group of spectators had gathered. Elaborate arrangements had been taken and Inspector Baker and several constables were in attendance, in addition to the Station Master and other

officials. There was no demonstration but a kindly act on the part of the Queen was noticed: she waved her hand once or twice to the persons on the platform as the train proceeded without stopping to Six Mile Bottom. 08 04 11

1908 04 13

Much anxiety was occasioned at Newmarket owing to the non-appearance of the Royal motor car in which Queen Alexandra and the Emperor of Russian were travelling. One absurd report was that Anarchists were to blame. Cyclists went out as search parties and Supt Winters set off in a private car in search of the Royals. The chauffeur had taken a wrong turning and the Queens were lost for the better part of an hour as the car threaded the maze of country lanes around Fordham. A burst tyre caused further delay and they were nearly an hour late. 08 04 13

1908 05 06

The King motored from Bucking Palace to St Pancras and left by the 5.7 train for Newmarket. A special saloon had been attached for his use and tea was already laid. At Cambridge the Royal saloon was detached and was run as a special to Newmarket which was reached shortly before seven. His Majesty subsequently motored to Moulton Paddocks and dined with Sir Edward Cassell. He will motor back on Friday. 08 05 06a, 50 10 14

1909

1909 05 07

Prince Henry of Battenberg opened a sale of work in aid of the funds for providing a properly-equipped Children's Ward at Addenbrooke's Hospital. There has been one in the past but some years ago it was done away with as the Hospital' income was not sufficient. Children have not been entirely neglected: urgent cases have been taken in but the staff felt handicapped without a bright, sunny ward where the injured and diseased little ones might be given a fair chance of recovery. 09 05 07 p5

1910

1910 01 14

King in Cambridge – brief stop station - 10 01 14h

1910 05 13

Many in Cambridge had left home before the news of the Death of King Edward VII was known but in an hour or two there were signs of mourning everywhere. Many of the tradespeople draped their shutters, blinds were drawn at private residences, church bells were tolled and flags hoisted half-mast on the public buildings. During the morning when the streets were filled with crowds of country people from the surrounding villages it was almost the exception to find anyone without some note of black in their attire 10 05 13c & d

With fitting ceremonial Prince George Frederick Ernest Albert was proclaimed to the University, the Borough and County of Cambridge, King of Great Britain and Ireland and Dominions beyond the Seas and Emperor of India, in succession to Edward VII. In the Guildhall the Mayor and Corporation assembled in the Large Room with the benign countenance of Queen Victoria looking down on them from the wall to acclaim her grandson as King George V 10 05 13e-g i j

On a certain day 49 years ago several undergraduates while walking along the Madingley Road were overtaken by a heavy rainstorm. They were not provided with any protection against such weather and there was every likelihood they would be thoroughly drenched. An old lady living in one of the brick-built cottages noticed their plight and they gladly took the opportunity to wait in her dwelling until the violence of the storm had abated. Before they left the kindly old dame insisted upon one of the young men accepting the loan of her umbrella. It was returned the next day with a substantial gift in recognition of her kindness. That undergraduate afterwards became King Edward VII 10 05 13h

1910 05 27

Col Theodore Roosevelt, ex-President of the United States of America, was awarded an Honorary Degree in the Senate House. He arrived by train from London and was driven to Pembroke Lodge where he lunched with the Vice-Chancellor and 100 friends. Afterwards he was made an Honorary Member of the Union Society. Only Oliver Wendell Holmes, Lord Kitchen and Mr Waterhouse, the architect of the Union building had received this honour before him. The whole visit was very quietly carried out owing to the death of King Edward VII 10 05 27a

1910 10 21

A public meeting agreed that the best Cambridge memorial to King Edward VII would be an extension to Addenbrooke's Hospital. At present there was a small ward where only eight infants could be accommodated and the outpatients department did more harm than good as people suffering from infectious diseases had to wait in company with others, increasing infection. The boiler needed replacement and there was need for a new room for X-ray apparatus as well as a new lift. There should also be a bust of the late King to be displayed in the Guildhall alongside that of his mother, Queen Victoria. 10 10 21e & f

1911

1911 06 23

The Coronation of King George V and Queen Mary at Westminster Abbey was attended by scenes unprecedented in the history of the Empire. In Cambridge a strong wind struggled wildly with noble flags and dainty decorations alike. Immense crowds of people walked round the streets and endorsed the judges' choice of Stetchford Dairies' premises as having the premier decorative scheme. The Dorothy Café was a very fine second best. Coronation celebrations: electric searchlight on Castle Hill; no drunkenness, include variety entertainment & fireworks on Parker's Piece [MPP.53, 11 05 06 TT] 11 06 23 & a, b, c

1914

1914 04 24

King's Visit - Six thousand schoolchildren will next Thursday line the streets. Although visit is to the Leys School. King will proceed to the school via Newmarket Road, East Road, Lensfield Road and Trumpington Road. Upon arrival will be received by a guard of honour and met by headmaster and members of the governing body. Will view memorial South African War, inspect the gymnasium, swimming baths, science buildings, etc 14 04 24 CIPof 14 05 01

1914 05 01

Appeals for people to decorate their houses along the King's route to lay foundation stone Moulton chapel Leys school to the Leys School were effective. Along Newmarket Road and East Road houses vary in size but an elaborate display of flags and bunting had been arranged. The favourite plan was a Union Jack hung from the bedroom window or bunting arranged along the window ledges, businesses were tastefully embellished while scores of streamers were hung across the road with a tremendous banner inscribed 'Cambridge Working Men's Club'. Many of the side streets made good displays 14 05 01e, photos 14 05 01b

Crowds of children lined Newmarket Road to see the King make his way to the Leys School. The vice-chairman of the Education Committee rode along the route on his bicycle to see the children looking happy and not at all tired. The NSPCC inspector was also on duty. A kindly gentleman was standing outside the Jolly Butchers entertaining the children with a cockatoo. The little ones laughed very heartily as the comical bird flapped its wings and laid down the law with its beak whilst conversing with its master. Presently a large Daimler car was seen. "Here comes the King" shouted someone and the shrilling cheering and waving of flags told those at Page's Corner that his Majesty had come 14 05 01d

Two petitions were thrown at the King's car as he made his way to the Leys School, one landed on top of the car, the other struck the chauffeur in the face. That the King would be in a closed car was

obviously not anticipated. Very few people observed the actions of the suffragettes, so quietly were they carried out. The petitions begged the King to reconsider his refusal to receive Mrs Pankhurst's deputation. 14 05 01f

The King's car slowed down near Bottisham Vicarage where the schoolchildren had assembled. Bugler Bowers, of the Boy Scouts, gave the signal of the King's approach and the children sang the National Anthem. The well-known house, 'The Swan' was beautifully decorated and the church flag floated proudly in the breeze from the tower. Quite a crowd of people from adjacent villages lined the road towards Cambridge 14 05 01g

1914 06 12

Royal Visit - Prince Arthur of Connaught opened the new School of Physiology erected on the Downing Street site by the Worshipful Company of Drapers at a cost of £23,500. 14 06 12 CIPof

1914 06 12

Ugandan Prince Joseph (cousin of the King of Uganda), and Stanislaus Muganys (one of the three Regents during the minority of the young King) welcomed to Cambridge. Bishop Hanlon (the first Vicar Apostolic of Uganda), who accompanied the Prince and the Regent to Cambridge, preached at Sunday evening's service at the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs to a large congregation. Outside the Church, large numbers of townspeople assembled in order to get a glimpse of the visitors, who wore their picturesque native robes. 14 06 12 CIPof

1914 12 18

Royal visit Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein to First Eastern General Hospital 14 12 18

1915

1915 04 30

Royal Visit.—On Wednesday, HRH Princess Henry of Battenberg and HRH Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig Holstein visited the Research Hospital, Hills Road, and the 1st Eastern General Hospital 15 04 30 CIPof

1916

1916 08 09

King makes private visit, few aware, to inspect the various military units in the town and to visit the 1st Eastern General Hospital. He evinced the keenest interest in everything he saw at the hospital, and stayed for a moment or so by the side of many a wounded hero. They stay in Cambridge lasted exactly 2 ¾ hours. His Majesty was in khaki, and looked fit and well 16 08 09 CIPof. Visit of King, watches cadets, visits Trinity cadets, 1st Eastern 16 08 09d – photos – 16 08 09c

1918

1918 03 27

Princess Mary paid her first visit and saw the old University town under its most modern conditions, its begowned undergraduates replaced by brown uniformed officer cadets and its men in many cases supplemented by women. She presented badges to the Women of the Land Army and the Village Workers 18 03 27 CIPof [2.17]

1918 10 09

Queen Mary's visit; pictures will be shown at Victoria & Kinema cinemas Ch 1918 Oct 9

1918 10 16

Queen and Princess Mary visit First Eastern General Hospital, Cambridge where the Queen, evidently recognising the difficulties which beset a photographer owing to the bad climate conditions, at her own request stood for a few moments to enable him to secure a snapshot. 18 10 16 CIPof Rev Yr]

1919

1919 08 06

Prince Albert and Prince Henry visit Cambridge before coming up to University – 19 08 06b

1919 11 12

Princes at dinner. The Old Persian tercentenary dinner was held in the Perse School Hall on Friday evening, the Bishop of Woolwich presiding. He was supported by Prince Albert, Prince Henry and others. The toast of "The King" having been honoured, the Bishop of Woolwich submitted "The Royal Family." Prince Albert, replying, said: "My brother and I feel at present like two simple minnows among a number of Tritons in a sea of knowledge." He congratulated the school on the prominent position it had taken in the pioneer work of modern education, "due, in so large a measure, to the brilliant and energetic efforts of Dr Rouse (headmaster) and his colleagues". "Your war record," he went on is one you may well be proud of. Your losses have been I fear heavy, and with you I mourn the brave men from your school who have given their lives for country and Empire
19 11 12 CIPof

1920

1920 02

Duke of York caught smoking when undergraduate – 36 12 12c. In February 1920 Dr Glover was on duty as Proctor outside the Union, waiting for undergraduates offending against University regulations when one of the bulldogs, Lavis, stopped the Duke of York, later King George VI, who was seen smoking in academic dress. The price's equerry dashed over and said he could not have it, but Glover insisted. Next day he sent Lavis round with the usual fine notice when he met the Prince who gave him a drink. Some years later the King recalled the incident and referred to the cigarette as the most expensive one he ever smoked! 53 04 25 36 12 12TT, 36 12 19. R.H. Lavis was bulldog who caught Prince Albert smoking – 36 12 19.

1920 03 17

Prince Albert arrives at Guildhall for Royal Investiture – photo – 20 03 17a

1920 05 12

Queen pays informal visit to two princes at Southacre and Trinity, walk Backs - CDN 20 05 12c

1920 06 19

Prince Albert, Duke of York leaves as undergraduate, describes being 'progged' for smoking - CDN 20 06 19 - speeches [20 04 19 TT]

1921

1921 05 25

Crown Prince of Japan visits Cambridge – 21 05 25b

Prince Hirohito of Japan's visit to Cambridge 1921 recalled – 71 10 06

1921 05 31

Prince of Wales visit to Cambridge, 31 May 1921: souvenir photos; cinema pictures to be shown at Victoria – 21 06 01b-f, j

1921 10 19

King & Queen visit NIAB – 21 10 19d,e

1922

1922 07 04

His Royal Highness the Duke of York unveiled the War memorial which has been erected in Cambridge. The ceremony was attended by thousands of people and was of a deeply impressive nature. It was raining heavily as the Prince mounted the platform for the unveiling ceremony. The band played the opening bar of the hymn "O God, our help in ages past" to the accompaniment of rain drumming on hundreds of umbrellas. A few minutes later the rain ceased and the rest of the ceremony

was carried though amid brilliant sunshine. The Prince pulled a rope which released the drapery revealing the bronze figure of an infantryman 22 07 04

When the new King unveiled the War Memorial – 36 12 12

1922 07 07

Before a large assembly at the Senate House his Royal Highness, the Duke of York, K.G. had the degree of Doctor of Law conferred on him by the Chancellor of the University, the Earl of Balfour. When the Duke of York was conducted by the Esquire Bedell to his position before the Chancellor, a storm of applause broke from the audience, which, led from the gallery, soon developed into a cheer. The Orator said; "Our Duke lives - as we read every day in the Press - a life of toil and thought for his people. We hope that in Cambridge, at least, he feels free from toil and anxiety and is here with pleasure and freedom of mind" c22 07 07

1924

1924 10 30

Princess Mary visits Tapestry works, 24 10 30 p6

1925

1925 11 21

In Cambridge, as throughout the country, the sad tidings of the death of the Queen Mother were received with feelings of profound sorrow. The flags on the University buildings, colleges, churches, municipal buildings were half-masted, and at various places of entertainment the audiences, on hearing the news announced, stood in silence while the National Anthem was played. The Mayor moved a vote of sympathy with their Majesties King George V and the Queen on the loss of their mother. To every Englishman the name of Alexandra has stood for love and sympathy 25 11 21

Queen Alexandra's visits to Cambridge, 25 11 28 p8, 25 12 05, p8

1929

1929 04 25

Prince Olaf of Norway visits Cambridge – CDN 25.4.29

1929 06 19

Ramsey MacDonald prime minister surprise visit Cambridge – CDN 19.6.1929

1929 07 23

Papworth Village Settlement visit by Duke & Duchess of York, 29 07 23 p5 & 24th p8*

1929 09 20

Queen at Papworth, 29 09 20 p8

1930

1930 05 06

The King, who celebrated the 20th anniversary of his accession to the throne today, attended racing at Newmarket this afternoon. He motored from Buckingham Palace during the ceremony of changing the guard and large crowds cheered as his car left. But only a few people noticed his arrival on the Heath. The King spent some moments at the new electric totalisator before proceeding to the grandstand. He will remain at Newmarket for the whole of the Spring Meeting. 30 05 06

1931

1931 10

Ghandi came to Cambridge, Oct 1931 42 08 15a

1932

1932 06 22

The Prince of Wales landed in his red Puss Moth monoplane at Marshall's aerodrome. He jumped hatless from the plane, then donned a boater and drove to the Leys School where he opened the new squash courts and sports ground. On his return he was assisted into his raincoat in preparation for a lofty flight in search of a favourable wind before he stepped into his monoplane, soared gracefully aloft and headed for London. 32 06 22a [2.3]

1932 07 15

The Duke and Duchess of York opened Papworth Village Settlement's Women's Hospital which provides accommodation with the personal appurtenances of a private bed-sitting room so that each of the 62 patients may enjoy cheerful, colourful surroundings in her fight for health. Then they journeyed on to Addenbrooke's Hospital to open a new wing for children. 32 07 15a & b (Queen Mother's first visit) [6.1]

1932 07 15

The visit of Her Majesty, Queen Mary, was kept a close secret and her car was temporarily held up near Northampton Street traffic lights. But the news quickly spread. Later she visited the Fitzwilliam Museum where she consented to be photographed under the picture of Cambridge that she had presented. 32 07 15g

1932 11 18

H.R.H. Prince George toured the Pye Radio Works where 1,500 hands produce 4,000 radio receivers a week. This is the first time a factory engaged in Britain's newest and most progressive industry has been honoured by a Royal visit. The operatives gave him a rousing reception – the girls were especially enthusiastic: it was a wonderful study to observe their varying expressions as he passed through the workshops. "Oh, he's lovely" was the general verdict and every detail of his dress, appearance and manner have furnished a fruitful topic of conversation in Cambridge homes 32 11 18a

1934

1934 01 08

Queen Mary & Duchess of York visit Cambridge Tapestry Company & Woolston's antique shop [6.2, 1.6] Thousands of people lined both side of St Andrew's Street when the Queen and Duchess of York paid a private visit to Mr Woolston's antique shop where the Queen chose several tiny ivory objects for her famous doll's house. She also inspected the Cambridge Tapestry Company's premises in Thompson's Lane where they watched the women workers actually engaged at the canvas and saw the tapestry panelling now being made for Lord Fairhaven, depicting his seat at Anglesey Abbey. 34 01 08

1934 01 29

Queen Mary paid another visit to Cambridge when she inspected two antique shops and called at a café on King's Parade. The large crowd who had been waiting was surprised when a small blue car drew up and she stepped out. The Royal limousine had broken down on the Ely Road and Mr Percy Titmous, a brewer's manager, had stopped to offer assistance. He then drove her to Cambridge. The Queen was intensely amused at the somewhat unexpectedness of her arrival and at the little adventure which had befallen her, he said 34 01 29 [1.7, 34 02 02]

Percy Titmous has become famous as a result of driving the Queen to Cambridge after her breakdown. The news spread very quickly and soon pressmen, news agencies and even film companies were hot on his track. One wanted a film specially for America, but he did not feel inclined to do so. He had wanted to slip away unobserved but had not thought to cover the number plate of his car and it was easy to telephone the Council offices to get his name. 34 02 03

The fame of Mr Percy Titmous, the Cambridge man who gave the Queen a 'lift', has spread to the United States of America and did the News Editors lap it up! The New York Herald-Tribune headlined the story 'Percy Titmous Plays Launcelot to Queen Mary in Dire Distress! Motorized

Knight Comes Upon His Liege Lady in Broken Down Limousine and Wheels His Trusty Sedan About in Dash for Cambridge Town' 34 02 10, 34 02 17

Another interesting part in the Queen Mary's visit to Cambridge was played by Mr Walter Riddy, proprietor of the St Andrew's Road Garage, Chesterton. After the Royal car had broken down and the Queen had been driven by Mr Percy Titmous, he received a telephone message requesting the hire of a Daimler saloon at short notice. He changed out of his working clothes and drove to Mr Roe's shop in St Andrew's Street to take the Queen to the Copper Kettle Café and then on to Exning. There she invited him to remain for lunch but he had another engagement and could not accept. 59 01 30

1934 10 20

King's visits to Cambridge – 34 10 20

1934 10 22

Thousands greeted the King and Queen when they made their way to the new University Library. Washing and cooking alike was forgotten in hundreds of homes as women formed a great part of the crowds which were thickest in Trinity Street where undergraduates in cap and gown added to the number. Of all the wonderful products of man's skill in art and labour the Library must rank of one of the most inspiring and peculiarly permanent of our national institutions and with while clouds scudding over its lofty tower this unique building occupied the centre of a delightful scene. An exceptionally good film of the visit, taken by Gaumont especially for the Victoria Cinema will be shown next week. 34 10 22 & 25

1935

1935 01 25

Her Majesty, Queen Mary, paid a surprise visit to Cambridge to purchase some antiques for her collection. So informal was the visit that even the police were not told she was coming and did not know she was in the town until her car was recognised. Officers then proceeded to Stanley Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's Street where there was soon a crowd of about 1,000 people. Motor cars parked nearby were removed and for some time bewildered drivers were inquiring the whereabouts of their vehicles. The Queen visiting all 16 rooms and bought a number of choice specimens of china, glass a furniture which were placed gently in her car. 35 01 23a (subsequently becomes a regular visitor) [35 01 25 CIPof 1.5]

1935 05 04

One of the most memorable features of the Jubilee celebrations for King George V will be a retrospect of the reign which has been prepared by Prof Harold Temperley for broadcasting. He calls it a radio dramatic and historical drama. He was assisted in his research in the Royal Archives by Miss Sybil Crowe, a former student of Girton and the gifted and artistic producer was by Lawrence Gilliam formerly of Peterhouse. Both were formerly his pupils. 35 05 04a

1935 05 07

Cambridge was decorated for the Jubilee celebrations of King George V. The gayest part covered the main shopping centre where everyone had apparently tried to do better than his neighbour. One of the most original efforts was seen in a grocery shop where a number of eggs had been dyed red and blue and made with some white-shelled eggs into the shape of the Union Jack. A music and cake shop, neighbours, had joined together to produce an effective display with lengths of red white and blue silk draped across the front of their premises while a gay display outside an insurance office attracted a great deal of attention 35 07 07a

In the evening of Jubilee Day the King's speech was relayed by means of loud speakers on Jesus Green. It came through with great clarity and was listened to with rapt attention by many thousands of people. The relay was carried out by Messrs Morley and Duke by means of amplifiers installed near Jesus Green Swimming Bath. Afterwards Josephine's Ladies Gipsy Ban played for dancing 35 05 07b

Cambridge Jubilee celebrations – 35 05 07c & d & e & f

1935 05 09

Children celebrate Jubilee, cinema show – 35 05 09a

1935 05 10

End of Jubilee celebrations – big crowds at Christ's Pieces – 35 05 10a

1936

1936 01 15

The Queen motored over from Sandringham to visit Mr Stanley Woolston's antique store where she purchased specimens of needlework and some ivories to add to her collection. As word spread the police had a hard time keeping back the ever-increasing throng of sightseers. It was noticed that one of the tyres of the royal car was a little deflated and an RAC Scout was called in to blow it up again. The Queen also visited the Cambridge Tapestry Company in Thompson's Lane where she saw one piece of tapestry that was being repaired. It had been stolen by thieves who were forced to abandon it in a wood where it had been affected by the weather and some children had also mutilated it 36 01 15a

1936 01 21

The news of the death of our beloved King came to the people of Cambridge by means of the wireless. The late afternoon bulletins prepared listeners for the worst and a solemn vigil began. In hundreds of homes families sat by the fireside waiting anxiously for the quarter-hourly bulletins which were given by the BBC. It was if the whole nation were waiting at the King's bedside. At the Dorothy Café, where the Fulbourn Mental Hospital Staff dance was in progress, the news of the King's death was learned at half-past-twelve. At once the dance was terminated. 36 01 21

The late King George first came to Cambridge as Duke of York in 1894 when he received an Honorary Degree. As King he stayed at Trinity College while inspecting the army manoeuvres in 1912 during which he met a column of troops on the march near Whittlesford and sat on his horse for nearly half an hour waiting for them to pass. He refused to allow them to be stopped in order to give him passage. Earlier he had dismounted to talk to an old soldier at Linton. His final recent visit was at the opening of the new University Library, 36 01 21c, 36 01 25 TT

1936 01 22

Proclaiming new king – 36 01 22

1936 01 23

Several thousand packed Cambridge Market Hill where from a special platform draped in purple the new King Edward VII was proclaimed. But proceedings were interrupted by the appearance overhead of an aeroplane and as a result of the noise from the engine the Mayor (Ald Wing) had to pause. Undergraduates crowded outside the Senate House where the University ceremony was held. Many of them had cameras and four or five, determined to get a good view of the ceremony, climbed into the huge bowl which stands on a pedestal in the court. 36 01 23c

Long before the royal train carrying the dead King was due to leave Wolferton, thousands had assembled at vantage points along the railway route to London line to pay their final homage. Every few yards little knots of people stood in reverent silence. Hundred lined the platform as the funeral train steamed slowly into Cambridge station. 'Charlotte' the parrot, King George's inseparable companion, was on the train. It had been carried to the station in a covered cage, placed on the knees of a royal servant in a royal shooting brake. 36 01 23a & d

Death of the King, the funeral train driven by Cambridge drivers passes through station [36 01 28 TT]
Royal funeral train at Cambridge – 36 01 23

1936 01 27

Scene in King's college chapel & other services – 36 01 27

1936 08 24

Queen Mary paid a surprise visit to Ely and spent an hour in the Cathedral. A man and his wife in the Cathedral noticed Her Majesty without being immediately aware of her identity. He remarked, however, on her 'likeness to the Queen' and the next moment was astonished to receive a gracious 'Good morning' from Her Majesty. Although she had mingled unnoticed with other visitors the news soon spread and there was a large crowd outside the West Door when her maroon Daimler left for Newmarket Jockey Club 36 08 24a (photo 36 08 25)

1936 12 10

King Edward VIII has abdicated. As Prince of Wales he came to Cambridge in June 1921 to receive an honorary degree and inspect Boy Scouts and Girl Guides. More than 5,000 children lined the route so they could catch a glimpse of 'Prince Charming' as he was called in those days. His last visit in June 1932 was to inspect the Leys School. There have been visits to the County, he opened Sawston Village College in July 1930 and reviewed the Royal Air Force at Duxford in 1935 36 12 10d

There was an enormous demand for copies of the CDN containing official news of the King's Abdication. The first edition was on sale within minutes of the Speaker's historic announcement in the House of Commons. It contained a three-column sketch of the new King and Queen and an appreciation of 'Edward – the Man' together with pictures recalling his visits to Cambridgeshire. The Night Final contained many other interesting details about the crisis. Hours after this London papers were still being sold in the streets that contained only a brief announcement in the Stop Press columns 36 12 10 & b-e.

The depressing fog hung over Cambridge like a gloomy portent of the sad news to come as people awaited the King's decision. Thursday afternoon (early closing day) brought shut shops and deserted streets to add to the atmosphere of depression. The usual football matches were in progress but the topic of conversation was about the Abdication crisis. The first to hear the news was the group gathered in the offices of the CDN awaiting the News Agency 'snap' messages. Shortly after three-thirty it came. Soon after the poster 'The King's Decision – Official' brought people into the streets eager for the latest news 36 12 10f

1936 12 12

All Cambridge listened to the farewell message broadcast by Prince Edward from Windsor Castle. At the Theatre Cinema an announcement was made that the feature film would be interrupted for the relaying of the speech by courtesy of the BBC. Just before ten the curtains over the screen were lowered. When they were drawn back a large receiving set was seen in the centre of the stage with a single spot-light shining on it. The lights were dimmed. A tense, almost painful silence fell on the audience. Suddenly it was broken. Sir John Reith was heard. 'This is Windsor Castle – His Royal Highness, Prince Edward' 36 12 12a

Cambridge and the new King – his various visits – 36 12 12b & c

1936 12 14

Proclaiming King George VI – 36 12 14 & a, b

1936 12 15

The King as a Cambridge undergraduate – photo – 36 12 15

1937

1937 01 16

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth paid her first visit to Cambridge since her accession. Together with Queen Mary she made a number of purchases from Mr S. Woolston's antique shop. Although a private trip, word had got about and despite the drizzling rain a crowd gathered to cheer the two

Queens when they arrived from Sandringham. Police had to institute a single-line traffic system to allow vehicles to pass the crush of people who surged round, cheering enthusiastically, when they departed en route to Exning for lunch. It was Queen Mary's fourth visit to the shop 37 01 16 ,6.3]

1937 05 10

Remarkably fine silken embroideries have been prepared for the embellishment of the thrones to be used at the Coronation of their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The King's throne is adorned with the Royal Arms while the Queen's also carried her newly-granted Bowes Lyon arms. The Cambridge Tapestry Company was entrusted with the work of embroidering the backs of the thrones. All the preliminary drawings on linen were made in Cambridge and the work was completed at the company's premises at Ickleford, near Hitchin 37 05 10

1937 05 11

Coronation programme – 37 05 11a

1937 05 12

Cambridge celebrated the coronation of King George VI with a decorated vehicle display on Midsummer Common. The entries hardly reached the standard of the Jubilee procession and the crowds did not seem to be quite so thick, but the right spirit was present. Modern decorations in the shape of coloured electric bulbs and weatherproof materials were utilised to the full with triple garlands spanning Market Hill and central streets. The war memorial and the colleges were bathed with floodlighting 37 05 12b

Coronation Celebration rejoicing – 37 05 12a

At the Coronation celebrations one small tent attracted probably more interest than any other with the possible exception of the tea tent. It contained a Pye television apparatus and during the afternoon many availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing the actual Coronation procession taking place. Although Cambridge is almost out of range of Alexandra Palace, everything came through very well. Almost the only interference was experienced when the motor racing was being held in the area only a few yards away 37 05 12b

1937 05 18

Crown Prince of Japan visits Cambridge – 37 05 18

1937 06 01

The King of Egypt arrived in Cambridge on the first visit he has paid to the town. He had been expected at Clare College at about six o'clock but was late as he'd waited for His mother, the Queen, who'd booked a suite at the University Arms Hotel. The King strolled about Regent Street and visited Barbara Fuller's dog shop where he purchased a wire fox terrier puppy which he played with in the college. Very few people knew of his visit which was to meet Egyptian students. About twenty were introduced to him, many being members of the Pharaohs Club. 37 06 01b

1937 07 09

Emperor of Abyssinia at Trinity – 37 06 09

1938

1938 01 17

Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mary & the Princess Royal visit Woolston's antique shop – 38 01 17

1938 08 05

Queen Mary visits Woolston's antique shop – 38 08 05 & b

1938 08 12

Queen Mary named the first block of the new buildings at Newnham College after Professor and Mrs Fawcett and their daughter Philippa. It was at the Fawcett's house in December 1869 that the first meeting was held to discuss plans which resulted in the foundation of the college. Twenty-one years later Miss Philippa Fawcett justified her parents' faith by being placed above the Senior Wrangler in the Mathematical Tripos. She was amongst the guests and was presented to the Queen who has taken the keenest interest in the College 38 08 12

1938 08 18

Queen Mary visits Folk Museum – 38 08 18

1938 08 19

Queen visits Fitzwilliam Museum & Woolston's antique shop with Queen Mary [38 08 19 CIPof1.2, 6.4]

1939

1939 01 17

Queen and Queen Mary visit Woolston's shop – 39 01 17 & a

The Queen paid her fourth visit and Queen Mary her eighth visit to Mr. Stanley Woolston's antique shop. Both the royal visitors made purchases of furniture, china and objects d'art. A crowd of 400 were thronging the roadway at the lunch hour 39 01 20 CIPof

1939 01 24

Queen Mary and Princess Royal visit Fitzwilliam Museum – 39 01 24 & a

1939 02 01

King and Queen with princesses join Royal train at Cambridge after visit Newmarket - 39 02 01a

1939 05 22

Queen Mary in car accident 39 05 27TT

1939 08 19

Royal visit to Papworth.— Queen Mary spent two hours going through several departments of Papworth Industries, and also visited for the first time the new Nurses' Homes. 39 08 19 CIPof

1939 08 25

Queen Mary arrived almost unobserved & when she alighted from her car in St. Andrew's Street, she was only noticed by a handful of people. It was her ninth visit to Mr. Stanley Woolston's shop. With her was a Curator of the Fitzwilliam Museum, and together with Mr. Woolston they went over the whole of the establishment's rooms ...showed a great interest in the antiques, inspecting china, furniture, pictures and other works of art. She made several purchases. 39 08 25 CIPof

1939 12 27

Queen Mary and her daughter, the Princess Royal, paid a visit to the Fitzwilliam Museum. Queen Elizabeth was also to have come, but she had a cold 39 12 27 CIPof

1940

1940 08 16

The Duchess of Gloucester visited Cambridge. At an emergency hospital, the whole of the nursing staff, regular and auxiliary, were lined up and inside the ward, the royal visitor talked with some of the patients, including several members of the B.E.F. back from France. An R.A.F. sick quarters, which is entirely nursed by the Red Cross, was the next place of call. After inspecting two of the wards, the Duchess saw a short display of surgical work by the nurses. Proceeding next to the University examination Hall, now an emergency ward of Addenbrooke's Hospital, the Duchess saw

some of the American ambulance units presented to the region then inspected the joint war organisation emergency hospital stores 40 08 16 CIPof

1940 11 15

Duchess of Gloucester opened the new WVS Club for Servicemen and Women in St. Andrew's Street. Although the visit had been kept very secret, a crowd of several thousands gathered in the street and gave Her Royal Highness a hearty send-off. The new club has been made possible through the generosity of an anonymous donor, and includes a. separate room for women 40 11 15 CIPof; 40 11 09a & b

1941

1941 09 06

King Peter of Yugoslavia at Clare, 1st reigning monarch 41 09 06 TT

1941 11 10

King of Greece granted Honorary Degree – 41 11 10a

1942

1942 03 03

King Peter and Queen Marie of Yugoslavia visit Cambridge – photo – 42 03 03

1942 06 15

King visits Swaffham Fen, Priory Farm, sees land reclamation, Land Army 42 06 15, 15a-b, 42 06 27 TT

1942 08 26

Duke of Kent killed – Cambridgeshire memories recalled – 42 08 26a, 42 08 29a

1942 11 07

Mrs Roosevelt visits Cambridge 42 11 07 TT

Mrs Roosevelt, American First Lady comes to Cambridge – 42 11 04a1

1943

1943 03 30

Duchess of Gloucester tours Red Cross and St John war organisations – 43 03 30, 31

1943 10 26

Duchess Visits Hospital. An addition to the programme arranged for the Duchess of Kent's visit to Cambridge on Tuesday afternoon was a call at the American Red Cross hostel at the Bull Hotel. Earlier, after visits to Addenbrooke's Hospital and The Leys Annexe, the Duchess had tea with workers in their canteen at the new Falcon Club in Petty Cury. Her Royal Highness chatted with hospital patients, workers and American soldiers at the U.S. hostel in the course of her tour. She was accompanied by Lady Rachel Davidson. During the Duchess's visit to the children's wards at Addenbrooke's the behaviour of the little ones was exemplary. 43 10 29 CIPof 43 10 26

1943 11 16

Regent of Iraq visited University School of Agriculture etc – 43 11 16

1945

1945 07 23

Queen Mary shops Stanley Woolston's antique shop – CDN 1945 07 23 photo – CDN 1945 07 24

1945 08 24

Royal Shopper. People who happened to be in St. Andrew's Street about noon yesterday had the pleasure of seeing Queen Mary, who paid a private shopping visit to Mr. Stanley Woolston's antique

shop. Before Her Majesty arrived, there was only a handful or more people in the vicinity of the shop, but as her car drew up outside, the crowd rapidly grew and people pressed forward to catch a glimpse of the distinguished visitor, Queen Mary, who attended by Lady Cynthia Colville, from Sandringham, wore a pretty powder blue frock, a white coat with a large white fur collar and a small white hat. She wore pearl and diamond earrings. As Her Majesty re-entered the car later, the cheers and clapping went up from the crowds, and many people ran behind the car to get a last view of her as she drove for Exning. 45 08 24 CIPof; Queen Mary re-enters car after shopping visit to St Andrew's Street – CDN 1945 08 24

1945 09 07

Two young Ethiopian Princes, both direct descendants of the Emperor, paid a private visit to Cambridge on Saturday, when they were guests of the Vice-Chancellor. The Royal visitors were Prince Sachie Salassie, the 15-year-old son of the Emperor, and Prince Alexander Desta, aged 11, a son of the Emperor's daughter. They arrived at Trinity at midday, where they were received by Mr. A. Marcos, a third year Ethiopian student at the college, before meeting the Vice-Chancellor at Emmanuel and going on to lunch at the University Arms Hotel. Another relative Princess Aida, sister of Prince Alexander, will be coming to Cambridge to study at Newnham 45 09 07 CIPof

1946

1946 01 28

Queen & Queen Mother visit Woolston's antique shop, only Queen's second visit – 46 01 28

1946 07 02

St John Ambulance association exhibition opened by Queen Mary of Yugoslavia – 46 07 02

1947

1947 01 10

Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary shop in Cambridge

1947 06 03

Visiting Cambridge today to attend a celebration associated with age - the 400th anniversary of the foundation of Trinity College - the King and Queen were greeted early by youth, represented by 6,000 Cambridge schoolchildren who cheered wildly as their Majesties drove along Station Road on the first stage of their journey. In several shop windows in the centre of town goods had been replaced a few minutes before the King and Queen passed, by assistants, etc, and the blue-frosted staff of Messrs Boots had a grandstand view from large packing boxes placed in the front entrance

Although the Royal visit to Trinity College was mainly a University affair the women of Cambridge had an opportunity of seeing the Queen, aptly described during the recent Royal tour as British womanhood's ambassadress. The question, a natural one, many of the women were asking was "What was the Queen wearing". The Mayoress (Mrs F. Doggett) had the experience of waiting on the Queen almost throughout the day. She said that both the King and Queen asked many questions about the fen floods showing a real interest and sympathy in the difficulties of the flood victims. She was impressed by the Queen's great charm. "She was untiring and knew just what to say to everybody", she observed 47 06 04

1947 08 29

Queen Mary visits antiques (& 30th p6)

1947 11 20

Many people unable to be in their homes listened to the broadcast of the Royal Wedding in Cambridge cinemas, all of which were thrown open for the purpose, free of charge. The biggest audience is reported from the Central Cinema who estimated the total as being in the neighbourhood of 500. The sound equipment at the Regal broke down at the last minute and the small queue which had formed there was diverted to the New Theatre opposite, where a set had been hastily brought

from his home and installed in the foyer by the Manager and the thrilling, impressive and historic service of the wedding of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth, future Queen of England and Lieut. Mountbatten, Duke of Edinburgh, was heard by a number of people. Messrs Miller and Sons, Sidney Street, to meet many requests from customers, televised the proceedings in one of their studios, which was packed 47 11 20

1948

1948 01 21

Princess Margaret paid her first visit to Cambridge to-day, when she accompanied Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary on a visit to Mr S.N. Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's Street. The Princess wore a pale blue costume, with a pale blue halo hat with a feather in it. Her coat was fawn fur, and she had blue lizard sling back shoes and a grey lizard bag. Her youthful charm drew spontaneous admiring remarks from the crowd which saw the Royal party leave. The Princess showed great interest in all she saw during her tour of the premises and asked several questions. She was obviously fascinated by the shop and its contents # c.02

1948 06 05

The Queen came to join in the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the foundation of Queens' college, Cambridge. Exactly on time the Royal car was seen coming round the last curve in the road from Hauxton and only the strong arms of the members of the Cambridge Police Force prevented the crowd from surging into the road. But even they were not strong enough to hold the crowd back once the car had stopped and within a few seconds it was completely surrounded so that Her Majesty, even if she decided otherwise, was forced to remain in the car 48 06 05 [6.9]

1948 08 24

Queen Mary took Cambridge by surprise today when she visited the town on one of her private visits to Mr Stanley Woolston's antique store. At precisely noon the car containing the Queen slid into the kerb outside the shop. It was not her own car, however, but the Ely police patrol car. The green Daimler in which the Queen had been travelling developed a slight defect at Lt Thetford and Her Majesty transferred to the police patrol car following the Royal car. The Daimler, duly repaired, was waiting outside Woolston's some little time before Her Majesty was ready to leave 48 08 24 47 08 28 TT

1948 10 21

When the Queen stood before the Vice Chancellor in Cambridge Senate House today to receive the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Law she was not only a Queen receiving an Honour but also a symbol of the passing of a 700-years-old "tradition" in the university. For, during the whole of the University's history no Queen - and no other woman - has ever before had a degree conferred upon her, because until the recent changes in the statutes giving women full membership the conferring of such an honour was not possible. As the Queen entered the Senate House there was a burst of cheering and clapping. Her scarlet Doctor's robes and her black velvet doctor's cap, made a charming ensemble with the Cambridge blue shade of her dress 48 10 21

As the Queen left Girton College yesterday evening, following her visit there, many students gathered in the drive made appropriate if unorthodox use of the gowns they now wear as symbols of their recently won rights to be full members of the University. They took off their gowns and waved them in farewell to the Royal lady, who in the morning had symbolised those new rights as she received in the Senate House the first degree to be conferred upon a woman in University history c48 10 22

1949

1949 01 17

The Queen, Queen Mary and Princess Margaret arrived in Cambridge by road from Sandringham to visit Mr Stanley Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's street. They were welcomed by an unusually large "arrival" crowd which had started gathering about half-an-hour earlier. The concentration of police in the area had a magnetising effect. The Queen wore a dress and coat of rich

purple, with matching felt hat and sling-back skin shoes, and silver grey fox furs. The hat was trimmed with veiling and small purple flowers. The crowd swelled steadily until there were several hundreds lining both sides of the pavements. The Queen was chatting when she walked from the shop to the car, and those nearest were honoured with the lovely, charming well-known smile 49 01 17 [6.11]

1949 06 13

Princess Margaret was present at the last night of the Footlights Review. Efforts had been made to keep the visit as private as possible. The two front rows of seats at the Arts Theatre remained conspicuously empty in a packed house. All faces craned towards the entrance as while the overture was playing the Royal party entered. The audience was on its feet in a second, and there was a spontaneous burst of clapping and a real cheer. The Princess, a petite girlish figure, looking serious and rather shy, was dressed with the utmost simplicity in an evening gown of deep pink tulle. She seemed to thoroughly enjoy the show

1950

1950 08 16

Queen Mary visits, p7

1951

1951 02 09

The Queen and Princess Margaret came to Cambridge on a private visit to their favourite local antique shop. They came by road from Sandringham and the Royal car was half-an-hour later than expected. It was held up for five minutes in a traffic jam in King Street. The sight of uniformed and plain clothed police in the vicinity of Mr Stanley Woolston's shop drew a crowd to the spot and there were well over a hundred people-mostly women with shopping baskets – waiting when the Royal car drew into the kerb

1951 04 27

King grants City Status, King & Queen visit in April, met by Mayor (Capt Taylor of CDN) & celebrate 500th anniversary Kings & completion replacement stained glass window 51 04 27 [6.12]

A Royal welcome greeted the King and Queen when they arrived for their visit to King's College chapel thanksgiving service for its restoration and the replacement of windows removed for safety during the war. The car flying the Royal standard drew up to the city boundary at Newmarket Road. Many mothers from nearby houses brought their children along with little flags and some enterprising onlookers climbed on to one of Marshall's buildings to get a bird's eye view. Carried away by their enthusiasm many toddlers continued to cheer and wave small Union Jacks long after the Royal party had passed 51 04 28

1951 06 09

The news that the King has been advised to take a complete rest was received in Cambridge with deep concern, because it raises the question "Will the King be able to visit the city, as arranged on July 5th?" His majesty had agreed not only to come for the Royal Show but to pay a short visit to the Guildhall in connection with the city's new status. All of us hope that the King will not have to add Cambridge to the list of cancelled engagements. In the meantime letters inviting a number of people to attend at the Guildhall have gone out from the Town Clerk 51 06 09

1951 07 02

Honorary Degree for Princess Royal 51 07 02

1951 07 03

The finest "Royal" and the finest site – such is the general opinion about Britain's 1951 Festival of Agriculture which opened at Trumpington. Today's blazing sun was a pleasant contrast to the gales and torrential rains which marked Cambridge's last Royal in 1922. From early in the morning cars

streamed towards the showground. As traffic pressure increased the effect made itself felt even on the outskirts of town where there were occasionally short hold-ups. But movement into the car parks flowed smoothly and to get from the C.D.N. offices in St Andrew's Street took only 15 minutes

1951 07 05

The Queen visited the Royal Show; her route took her through Grantchester where villagers welcomed the Royal car with a number of Union Jacks which hung from houses and hedgerows, and even the petrol pumps of a garage. Princess Margaret travelled as far as Baldock where she turned back because she had developed a bad headache. The town clerk's daughter, Rosalind Swift, who was to have presented Princess Margaret with a bouquet, handed it to the Queen who said she would see that it reached the princess. Obtaining one of the best views was a small patient from Addenbrooke's Hospital, Terence Harley who has unfortunately lost his hearing and the Queen's words to him were written down by his nurse 51 07 05

1952 02 08

With traditional pageantry Queen Elizabeth II was proclaimed from the steps of Cambridge Guildhall and inside and outside the Senate House on Friday morning. Some inkling of the news of the King's death had reached one or two people in Cambridge before the BBC announcement. As the news began to spread small groups of incredulous people stood discussing it in the streets. By mid-day Cambridge had become a city of flags. Gas Company men excavating in Park Terrace expressed their sympathy by fixing a Union Jack at half-mast from the ropes surrounding the hole they had made in the road. At Pye Ltd's factory the machinery was stopped so that all the 2,000 employees could hear the announcement over the internal loud-speaker system by Mr L.W. Jones, Words Director.

1952 02 09

Long before the arrival of the ten-coach funeral train bearing the body of King George VI, large crowds had gathered at the main vantage points along the line at Ely to pay their homage. At the station crossing hundreds of people assembled on both sides, whilst lines of traffic extended for some distance. Heads were bared as the train rolled smoothly through the station. Workmen who had given up part of their dinner hour and American servicemen were amongst the crowds. At the little village station of Waterbeach about 100 housewives, farmworkers and children gathered. A crowd of more than 800 people lined the marshalling yards on either side of Mill Road bridge, Cambridge. The long black funeral coach, with all its windows blacked out passed exactly on time. Queen Elizabeth II gazed pensively out of a carriage window as the train passed a group of railwaymen standing caps off near Hills Road Bridge. c52 02 14 52 02 06, 52 02 09, 52 92 11

1952 02 09

There are happy memories of King George VI's undergraduate days at Trinity College, Cambridge in 1919-20 when with his brother he sojourned at "Southacre" in Latham Road. In 1922 he unveiled the war memorial in Hills Road and attended the Royal Show at Trumpington & in 1932 he opened the new wing for children and private patients at Addenbrooke's Hospital. His last visit was last year when he attended the Service of Thanksgiving at King's College. 52 02 09

1952 02 11

As the King's funeral procession was winding its slow way through London's streets, hundreds of Cambridge people at similar services in the city joined in Britain's mourning for her late Sovereign. City and County combined at Great St Mary's church where a separate University service was held later. About a thousand people filled the church. Most of the men wore black ties. The scarlet robes of City aldermen provided the one touch of colour; even the gilt of the maces was subdued by a draping of black. The service was relayed to an overflow gathering in the Guildhall. A crowd of some 300 people gathered on the Market Place for the two minute's silence. As the maroon exploded men removed their hats and heads were lowered.

1952 06 12

With all the familiar colour and dignity of a royal occasion, the date of the Queen's coronation – June 2nd next year – was proclaimed today to the people of the city and county of Cambridge. It was a happy coincidence that it should mark a fitting and optimistic finale to the gay and glittering story of the May Week celebrations. A girl still in her May Ball gown and cloak was amongst a crowd of people outside the Shire Hall courts when the High Sheriff, following a fanfare, read the ancient proclamation. On the Market Square a crowd several hundred strong was silent when the Town Clerk began to read but his voice was all but lost in the howl from jet planes speeding overhead.

1952 11 14

The visit to the University of Cambridge by the Duke of Edinburgh was enriched and enlivened by the reception which the young consort received at every stage of his tour. It was a “dusk and darkness” tour but the car's interior lighting was on and the crowds had a clear view of the slim, fair-haired Duke. The outstanding items in the programme were the conferment of the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Law upon the Duke at the Senate House, his opening of the new laboratory at the University Engineering Department and his visit to the University Union where he was made an honorary member. The Duke left a happy memory of an unassuming young man with a ready smile and a keen and intelligent interest in all that he saw. 52 11 14

1953

1953 01 20

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, accompanied by Princess Margaret, paid a surprise visit to Cambridge to call at Mr Stanley Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's Street. News of their coming was a secret, but a handful of people appreciated the significance of the ‘No Waiting’ signs & when the sleek Royal car drew up a crowd of about 200 had been attracted to the scene. The Queen Mother, fresh and charming as ever, returned the cheers of the crowd with a smile and a friendly nod. Princess Margaret, demure, attractive and smiling followed her mother into the shop which has now enjoyed Royal patronage for a great many years. 53 01 20

1953 02 14

Bad weather delayed the Royal Car when Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother came to Cambridge to visit depots where clothing is being stored for East Coast flood victims. She visited the hangar on Madingley Road in which is stacked some 400 tons of clothing sent by post, road and rail from all parts of the country. There she watched undergraduates unloading lorries, saw the clothing being sorted and then went to the canteen where she accepted a beaker of tea, declining sugar. Then she walked into the open to see the Soya boilers used to provide hot meals. During part of the time in the shed Her Majesty was under the glare of television cameras which were recording the proceedings. 53 02 14

1953 03 19

Marshal Tito paid a surprise visit to Cambridge; police took stringent security measures and many people were surprised to see a fleet of a dozen cars, escorted by police patrolmen on motor-cycles, sweeping along the streets. It was not until late in the afternoon when it became known that the distinguished visitor was the Yugoslav President. At the University Library Special Branch detectives screened all visitors in the most stringent security measures ever undertaken on the visit of a foreign statesman. He then visited the Engineering Department and Downing College. 53 03 19

1953 03 21

King Hussein of Jordan had a flight in a helicopter, saw the beauty of King's College Chapel and had dinner at Trinity College during a short visit to Cambridge. His first engagement was a visit to the Bourn works of Pest Control Ltd and as his car covered the last mile to the entrance it was escorted by a crop-spraying helicopter keeping pace 50 feet overhead. News that the locust threat in his own country has become very grave increased the importance of a demonstration of methods employed in the destruction of the pest 53 03 21

1953 03 25

Amid the nation-wide sorrow at the death of Queen Mary, the sadness of the people of Cambridge is of a deeper and more personal nature. For this City has known her not only as a gracious lady but also as a charming, friendly and human personality. For more than 20 years she came at frequent intervals to call at Mr Stanley Woolston's antique shop and the people of Cambridge came to accept it as a normal part of the city's life. But the news was sufficient to cause a flutter of excitement and to attract a crowd to St Andrew's Street to demonstrate their affection. 53 03 25

With a rosy glow reflected on the windows of Great St Mary's church, a University, City and County congregation paid their last respects to her late Majesty, Queen Mary. While the beautiful gaunt notes of the Dead March in Saul rang through the pillared church there was a silence so complete, so moving as to be perhaps the loveliest and most memorable part of Cambridge people's memorial to the late Queen. Then led by the Mayor and Corporation the congregation melted out into the brightness of a fine March day. 53 03 25

1953 05 09

The television broadcast of the Coronation ceremony will be shown to some 250 people on big screen projectors in Cambridge Guildhall. The projectors are specialised television receivers and produce a picture four feet wide. The picture quality is remarkable but much depends on the signal strength and the co-operation of motorists and other persons who cause T/V electrical interference is invited in keeping away from the vicinity of the Guildhall on Coronation morning. Seats will be allocated to pensioners, wounded ex-Servicemen and similar deserving cases. 1953 05 09

1953 05 27

Flags fluttering in the breeze, decorations in traditional colours lining the streets, special shop window displays – these are but a few of the features which have given the city of Cambridge the Coronation look. The city centre, already a scene of gaiety and colour, heralds the approach of next Tuesday's great event. In roads radiating from the centre, decorations to shops and other buildings are being arranged. The majority of householders prefer to wait a little longer. For them D-Day, with the 'D' standing for Decoration – will be some time this weekend. The cost of decorations is an important consideration for many and consequently the emphasis is on effect rather than on elaboration

1953 05 28

Prince Akihito, the Crown Prince of Japan arrived in Cambridge on a short private visit to the University. He visited the University Library where he was shown the signatures of his father, the present Emperor, who came to Cambridge in 1921, and the Japanese collection of 30,000 volumes, one of the best collections outside Japan. The 19-year-old Prince had lunch with four undergraduates and chatted about student life.

1953 06 03

In cold, blustery weather the City of Cambridge put on a brave show in celebration of the Coronation Day of Queen Elizabeth II. Despite the almost wintry conditions the extensive and varied programme was carried through practically unchanged. Everything testified to the magnificent spirit of the occasion and the unanimous desire of the people of Cambridge to make their contribution to the world-wide acknowledgement of this great day. For much of the time it was a matter of celebrating briefly and then dashing for shelter under the trees or in marquees from another downpour

In every main road and in narrow backstreets in Cambridge the flags are flying & pictures of the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and their children are in every other window. Union Jacks and the flags of the Commonwealth make a vivid splash as they flutter in the wind and at least one American family joined in the display with a huge, brand-new Stars and Stripes. Silver Street Bridge blossomed out in red, white and blue stripes – an unofficial decoration scheme believed to be the work of students

1953 06 16

In spite of dull conditions members of the firm of Messrs Kerridge Ltd and their children turned up in force for the Coronation sports and party on Pye Sports Ground. A parade was led by the Boys

Brigade band and there was a whole range of side-shows which were free to the children with roundabouts for the toddlers, real ponies and miniature train rides. After tea 'Len' Palmer and his accordion was supported by his three charming daughters in delightful sketches and dances, culminating with the youngest in Coronation robes and a crown.

1953 06 17

At Ditton Fields Coronation Party 228 children wearing fancy hats and carrying flags and streamers marched to Priory School where they sat down to a grand tea catered by Messrs Hawkins Ltd. Afterwards there were musical games and sing-song and a fancy-dress competition whilst entertainment by Mr F. Cross kept the party spellbound. At the end each child was presented with a small souvenir, sweets and ices.

1954

1954 01 13

A crowd of about 100, including a fair sprinkling of undergraduates, saw Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret arrive at Stanley Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge on one of the private shopping visits which they so often make while at Sandringham. The Royal Party remained inside for an hour and during this time one of the biggest crowds to be seen had collected. The pavements on both sides of the street were a solid mass of people and shop assistants took up vantage positions in windows overlooking the scene. The mid-day meal must have been late in many homes judging by the number of housewives with heavily-laden shopping baskets who stood in the crowd. 54 01 13

1955

1955 06 23

Queen of Jordan visits Girton College [55 06 23]

1955 10 12

King Feisal of Iraq paid a private visit to Cambridge as the guest of the Vice-Chancellor of the University. He arrived late because of fog and after lunching at Christ's College visited the Wren Library at Trinity and the Fitzwilliam Museum. He then travelled to Marshall's airfield where he displayed keen interest in a Venom IV jet aircraft and the Comet jet and Viscount turboprop airliners. In the Royal party was Mr Tariq Al Askari who was at Cambridge as a student 55 10 12b

1955 10 20

A tremendous welcome greeted the Queen as she arrived at Cambridge station. Crowds had been waiting in the rain for over two hours and school children were tired of the delay. The glass roof of the station platform sprang a leak and a man was sent aloft to cover it with green waterproof. Exactly on time the train drew in and Her Majesty stepped gracefully onto the platform. The women onlookers gasped as they took in the details of her dress, a fitting emerald green coat with black fur collar, green hat and black handbag. 55 10 20a

A crowd of several thousands massed in Cambridge Market Place as the Royal procession moved slowly towards the Guildhall. The Queen looked radiant as the Mayor (Ald E. Halnan) presented her with an Electryte Cardiograph adapted by a local firm to monitor the heart of her thoroughbred racehorses. She thanked him warmly saying "this ingenious machine will be put to good use". Then she made an appearance on the balcony, waving to the crowd who cheered back. 55 10 20b

There was heavy rain as the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh. arrived for the ceremonial opening of the new Veterinary School where a batch of undergraduates lay down their gowns in a Sir Walter Raleigh act. The Queen was much taken and amused but her private detective, fearing that Her Majesty might trip on the loose gowns, asked for them to be taken up. But a loud cheer greeted the her smile at the gesture. 55 10 21a & b

1956

1956 01 18

Crowds several hundred strong massed to see the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret as they visited Stanley Woolston's antique shop in Cambridge. As news of the surprise visit spread hundreds of girls from shops and offices set out to cheer the Royal visitors. Police fought to keep the road clear but every time they cleared a space another group of women moved in. The Queen Mother expressed concern about the future of the business – he must leave by June because of building plans for the site – saying “We want to know where we can come and visit you”. 56 01 18

Many people who joined the large crowd outside Mr Stanley Woolston's antique shop did not know who they were waiting for but were quite willing to tag on the end. The minutes ticked by and a group of shop assistants who were due back on duty and had missed their lunch in the hope of seeing the Royal visitors had to leave. The tension was made worse by the frequent appearance of the chauffeur who carefully stowed small packages away in the boot of a maroon limousine. When the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret finally appeared it was a wonder they were not crushed. Within two minutes the street was deserted. 56 01 20a

1956 11 29

The Duchess of Gloucester visited Cambridge to open the Red Cross Society Bazaar. There were nearly 100 people waiting as her train arrived at the station but her progress to the Guildhall by car went almost unnoticed. Even at the Market Place there were few more than the usual afternoon shoppers to see her welcomed by Lady Spens and the Mayor, Counc. C.E. Ridgeon. She toured the stalls and met Mr P.J. North, a Red Cross member for 50 years. 56 11 29c

1957

1957 05 29

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother opened a new wing at Homerton, a women's training college which prepares students for teaching in primary and secondary schools. She walked along the main entrance driveway passing groups of pretty girl students making a gay sight in their brightly-coloured cotton frocks. 57 05 29 & a [6.13]

1957 08 01

Two groups of Cambridge people, one small and ageing, the other large and young will always carry vivid and happy memories of Princess Margaret's visit. One are the happy band who are passing away their 'twilight years' in the comfort and beauty of Langdon House, which she officially opened. The other are the young families who live on the new housing estate at Arbury Road where the foundation stone of a new church was laid. The Princess came into their midst, laughing, joking and chatting with them, radiating her charm and personality wherever she went. 57 08 01c & d & e & f

1958 11 06

Princess Margaret was described as a person who could 'blend approachability with majesty in a wonderful way' when she received an Honorary Degree in the Senate House. Looking radiant and beautiful, dressed in a brilliant mauve velvet coat, she was given a rousing welcome by thousands of cheering schoolchildren as she drove from the station. Later she opened the new Chemical Laboratories in Lensfield Road 58 11 06 & abc, 58 11 07 & bc

Princess Margaret visit 1958 & Tony Armstrong Jones as student – 60 02 27

1959

1959 10 17

Winston Churchill plants tree at new Churchill College – 59 10 17, 59 10 19 & a b c [3.1, 5.5]

1960s *The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date*

1960

1960 06 08

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother opened Angel Court, the new extension to Trinity College built to ease the student accommodation problem. She travelled by normal passenger train and was fifteen minutes early arriving at the college where she showed interest in some of the ancient pottery discovered during excavation work. Later a crowd of several thousand people gave her a rousing send-off as her special launch left the forecourt of the Pike and Eel at Chesterton to take her to watch the May Races on the River Cam 60 06 08 & a [6.14]

1961

1961 06 05

The Queen Mother opened the new Erasmus Building at Queens' College designed by Sir Basil Spence and West House, a new block of classrooms and living accommodation at the Leys School. By joining it on to the existing range of squash and fives courts opened by the Prince of Wales in 1932 it has created an attractive court with a fine view of Coe Fen and the River Cam. Now all boys can move into a study after two years in the common room. There is a penthouse for two bachelor masters which could provide accommodation for nursing staff in the event of an epidemic. 61 06 05 & a, 61 06 06 & a & [8.13]

1961 07 06

Queen Mother visits Royal Show by helicopter – 61 07 06

1962

1962 05 28

The Queen arrived in Cambridge to a fanfare of trumpets and over 2,000 people stood in the biting wind to welcome her as she opened the new Addenbrooke's Hospital. With Miss M.M. Puddicombe, the hospital matron, she walked past a line of nurses to the marquee where the ceremony was held before touring various wards speaking to patients. Later the Queen visited King's College chapel to see the newly-installed Rubens painting and toured the Papworth Village Settlement 62 05 28 & a 62 05 29a

1963

1963 05 30

Duke of Edinburgh arrives by helicopter to talk to children in his Award Scheme – 63 05 30

1963 07 24

Princess Margaret and the Earl of Snowdon came to Cambridge to watch television cameras and electronic equipment being made at the Pye factory, St Andrews Road. A small industrial closed circuit television camera was trained on them when Lord Snowdon asked to have a go. The Princess then focussed it on a group of press photographers. A great burst of cheering went up when Lord Snowdon went over to attractive Mrs Jean Keeble who was working on a television assembly line. "I was absolutely thrilled", she said. Later they took a voyage on the Cam on Viscountess Bury 63 07 24 & a

1964

1964 06 05

Duke of Edinburgh opens Churchill College, visits Pye Telecom & Airport [64 06 05]

1965

1965 03 08

Shah of Persia tours Cambridge 65 03 08a

1965 06 08

Queen Mother opens 1st phase of New Hall – 65 06 08a, 09a, b

1966

1966 01 15

Prince Charles visits Magdalene College [66 01 15]

1966 07 04

Queen Mother opens Fitzwilliam Museum extensions – 66 07 14

1967

1967 10 09

Prince Charles arrives to study at Trinity College – 67 10 09, 09a

1969

1969 02 08

Prince Charles crowns Rag Queen- 69 02 08b, 69 02 15a

1969 03 01

Prince Philip and Princess Anne watch Prince Charles perform in Trinity College revue, handed protest leaflet about tour of South Africa by undergraduates who broke into auditorium – 69 03 01a

1969 03 12

Queen lunches with Prince Charles at Trinity on official visit to NIAB - 69 03 12. 12a

1969 03 29

Prince Philip opens Churchill College conference – 69 03 29

1969 06 10

Queen Mother attends centenary lunch Girton college [69 06 10,6.18]

1969 07 01

Prince Charles' career since he came to Cambridge – feature – 69 07 01b,c,d,e

1970

1970 02 21

Prince Charles in Trinity Review with bagpipes – 70 02 21

1970 05 06

Prince Charles opens Kettle's Yard – 70 05 06a

1970 05 13

Prince Charles awarded BA, maiden speech at Union Society on technological advance, Lord Mountbatten present – 70 05 13

1973

1973 06 14

Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, relaxed and obviously enjoying her visit to Wesley House, Cambridge, delayed part of her programme to talk to more members of the college than planned. The six-year-old daughter of the Senior Tutor - Rosemary Skinner - showed a marked reluctance to hand over a posy of flowers to the Queen Mother, but the three-year-old son of the college students' chairman decided to make his own impromptu and unscheduled offering of a potato crisp. And watched by the Lord Lieutenant, the university's divinity professors and a host of other dignitaries young John Oglesby persisted and all the assembled guests had to wait their turn. The Queen Mother, in a grandmotherly way, accepted his gift with thanks and a brief chat. Also visits Leys School. 73 06 14

1973 07 26

Duke of Edinburgh opens Churchill archives centre [73 07 26]

1975

1975 07 22

The Queen Mother opened the new £½-million extension of the Fitzwilliam Museum. The Royal visitor, dressed in a pale-blue turquoise coloured outfit, paused several times to smile and wave to the crowd before being introduced to Museum staff by Prof Jaffe. She had a good look at the £2½ million collection of Cambridge plate on display and after tea she was driven to a waiting helicopter on the playing fields of St John's college 75 07 22 [6.20]

1975 08 02

Hundreds of people crowded around the entrance to the Senate House to watch Prince Charles arrive in academic cap & gown to collect his MA Degree. They waited patiently for 20 minutes when he emerged again after the ceremony. But the formal schedule of his procession was broken when Mrs Phyllis Hepburn, a friend from his student days, hailed him from the crowd. The Prince turned and stopped to chat with her. She said he used to come to her home in Millington Road to play in a string quartet 75 08 02

1975 12 04

Princess Anne, making her first official visit to Cambridge, insisted on an impromptu chat with some of the thousands of sight-seers who thronged the city centre Lion Yard shopping centre. An estimated 10,000 people packed the Market Square and stood eight deep each side of Petty Cury as she walked into the new shopping centre. She stopped to talk to the delighted shop girls who were crowding their doorways and also to the eager shoppers who pressed forward to get a closer look at her. She explained: "I am not a complete stranger here because I have been shown around the university and city unofficially by two previous students who are both fans of the old city" 75 12 04

Large crowds turned out to see Princess Anne wherever she went in Cambridge during her visit yesterday. Inevitably the criticisms that have been voiced about the architecture of the Lion Yard were referred to during the formal speeches. The city council's Labour leader, Coun Peter Wright, spoke of the 'dissension' which still existed over the complex. And Princess Anne, who declared herself a "VI – that means very independent" observer of the architectural scene, said she would report back on the project to two "former students" at Cambridge University when she returned to London 75 12 04

1976

1976 02 12

Prince Philip is now the strongest contender for the Chancellorship of the University. Informed sources have disclosed that Prince Charles was offered the post but turned it down because of his naval commitments with HMS Bronington. Lord Ramsey, former Archbishop of Canterbury, is thought to have declined the invitation while Mr Selwyn Lloyd, recently retired speaker of the House of Commons, is still regarded by many dons as too close contemporary politics to command unanimous support. Prince Philip has for many years maintained a close formal and informal interest in Cambridge and has seen Cambridge life from the student viewpoint through unannounced visits while Prince Charles was up at Trinity 76 02 12

1976 10 28

Princess Margaret whisked around Cambridge on a brisk visit. At the Arbury Estate many local people stood out in the rain to welcome her. The royal party then left for Langdon House, which she had opened during the previous visit where she met Mrs Francis Aldrich, the longest-serving member of staff. By now she was 15 minutes ahead of schedule for her visit to the University Clinical Medical School. "It threw us into panic stations" said the Secretary, Mr J.P. Howe c76 10 30 visits Good Shepherd, Langdon House etc 76 10 28

1977

1977 05 18

Duke of Edinburgh succeeds Adrian as Chancellor of University [77 05 18]

1977 06 07

Thousands of people attended Cambridge's main jubilee celebrations – rustic games, music, a river boat procession and fireworks – on Midsummer Common. For the women there was a supermarket trolley race won by a team from Robert Sayles. Rain dampened the start of the carnival but large crowds gathered to watch the jubilee games and the procession of decorated motor boats which followed. The evening was rounded off by a fireworks display and there were cheers when the final set piece spelling out “ER II rules OK” was lit. At Thriplow a “Royal Show” included smashing the Royal Doulton, donkey rides from Anne's Riding Stables and a “Royal Free Hospital” blindfold stretcher obstacle race. 77 06 07

Jubilee celebrations include pole race, supermarket trolley race, fireworks, beacon lit Castle Hill, civic procession, Arbury carnival procession [4.1]

1977 10 22

Duke of Edinburgh opens University Music School [77 10 12]

1978

1978 03 07

Princess Anne was mobbed by student demonstrators when she arrived at the Cambridge Union Society Rag charity debate. She was held up outside the door by demonstrators sitting in her path and screaming abuse. They were protesting that the motion “The woman's place is in the harem” was sexist” and none of the abuse was directed personally against the princess. Nearly 150 demonstrators representing a variety of student groups including Gay Cambridge, Anarchists and Men Against Sexism picketed all entrances to the building. Other guests ran the gauntlet, Derek Nimmo was spat on and Robert Morley was catcalled and buffeted. 78 03 07

1978 11 04

Prince Charles parried questions on his success with women when he spoke at the Cambridge Union. “I often think my best way out is to announce my engagement to Gladys Thrumm. The wedding presents would arrive and then I would call it all off and then I could be free to go about and see all sorts of people”, he said. He was presented with a bath plug mounted on a wooden shield which came from the rooms he occupied when a student at Trinity College. It was signed by Mrs Florence Moore who cleaned the rooms and was in the audience. 78 11 04

1979

1979 05 15

Princess Margaret made an unscheduled walk to one of Cambridge's oldest churches, St Peter's on Castle Hill. It followed her visit the University's Gallery of Modern Art at Kettle's Yard, which was opened by Prince Charles in his undergraduate days. She saw a model of the proposed extensions which if approved would double the exhibition space and provide refreshment facilities for the public. Later, at her own request, she saw a class of medical students at work in the University Department of Physiology. 79 05 15

1979 08 02

Prince Charles opens Cambridge Consultants building [79 08 02]

1980

1980 02 27

Duke of Edinburgh opens Lion Yard law courts, visits Library [80 02 27]

1981

1981 05 29

Robinson College officially opened by Queen 81 05 29, 81 05 30

Newmarket millionaire David Robinson today announced he had given an extra £1 million to the college he founded. The news came shortly before the Queen and Prince Philip arrived in Cambridge

to formally open it. But Mr Robinson did not attend the ceremony as he did not feel up to it. He is very frail. But 2,500 employees of the Cambridge University Press took tea with the Queen after she opened their new Edinburgh Building. 81 05 29, 30

1981 07 30

The Royal Wedding had millions glued to their television sets but in side streets and back gardens revellers found a variety of ways to toast Charles and Diana throughout the rest of the day. In De Freville Avenue residents sealed off two streets and several hundred tucked in to tea, at Impington children of Station Road held their 'street party' indoors – the village hall had been booked in case of bad weather. Tea at Home Close old people's home at Fulbourn was a very English affair with handbell ringers and croquet on the lawn. 81 07 30b

Flo Moore was back at work at 4 am today as a char-lady at Trinity College after three dazzling days that took her from Buckingham Palace to St Paul's and then the television studios. They were guests at the Royal Wedding and saw all the ceremonial but, she said "All I want to do now is put a bag over my head like they do to Bernie's parking meters when they're out of order": her husband empties parking meters for the city council. 81 07 30a

1982

1982 01 29

When the Queen Mother opened St Paul's Church of England Primary School, Cambridge, she went from class to class, looking over the shoulders of the children as they continued their work. Three infant classes showed her their Captain Cook project, their dressing-up clothes, demonstrated how a canon works and gave an impromptu music lesson. Some were too busy to talk; one hurried busily up to the teacher with a problem: "I have to do his braces for the loo", she told the Queen Mother. "Oh that's much more important", she replied. 82 01 29a

1982 05 19

Duke of Edinburgh makes first helicopter landing on Parkers Piece [82 05 19]

1983

1983 10 03

Fleet Street's royalty watchers were out in force as Prince Edward started his studies at Cambridge University. Television crews, reporters and cameramen from almost every national newspaper were permitted inside the grounds of Jesus College for the Prince's arrival. Amongst them was the Sun photographer Arthur Edwards who outraged the Palace with his 'bikini pictures' of the Princess of Wales before the birth of Prince William. 83 10 03 p10, 83 01 18

1983 11 07

Jesus College could be turned into a fortress to stop reporters pestering Prince Edward and his fellow students. One student found a reporter sitting on her bed when she returned to her room and two undergraduates have been asked to pass on information. One photographer has been caught with a long-range lens on the fourth floor of a carpark. He had been trying to spy on the rooms of Edward's fellow undergraduate who will be playing the leading lady opposite the Prince in 'The Crucible' 83 11 07 p5

1984

1984 03 03

Astonished shoppers saw Prince Edward sipping champagne in Kings Parade and shouting at young people dancing on the roof of a taxi. It was his off-beat way of letting people know about the charity show he is producing for the University Rag Week. But his elaborate publicity stunt almost flopped when he failed to find the old London taxi he needed. So he asked the News for help and as a result Londoner Maurice Hamilton made a special trip to Cambridge with his cab. 84 03 03

1984 05 16

The Queen gave her royal seal of approval to Cambridge's multi-million pound Grafton Centre when she unveiled a plaque to mark its official opening. Cheering crowds queued for hours to glimpse her. A fanfare performed by the 20-piece orchestra from the Manor School greeted the royal party. After the opening the queen spoke to many of the children and shop staff. 84 05 16 p12

Hundreds of people turned out to greet the Queen when she unveiled a plaque at the opening of the multi-million pound Grafton Centre. Earlier she met youngsters at the ITek technology centre and made blind teenager Maria Freeman's day by stopping to chat with her as she typed on a special machine invented by the manager, David Battison. Both Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh planted trees at Emmanuel College to mark its 400th anniversary, though Philip quipped "I'm the kiss of death as far as tree planting is concerned" 84 05 17 p9

1985

1985 02 08

An aircraft carrying the Princess of Wales made a dramatic touchdown in Cambridge in a blinding snowstorm. Diana, wearing a red coat, stepped from the plane to a freshly-cleared patch of runway. Then her driver battled through traffic-clogged city streets to get the snow Princess to Peterhouse where she was met by flag-waving students who braved the appalling weather and saw a demonstration of research work into cot deaths. 85 02 08

Princess of Wales visits Foundation for study of infant diseases [85 02 09]

1985 06 08

The Prime Minister of China, Mr Zhao Ziyang, came on a whistle stop tour of Cambridge – but found it so tiring he had to leave after lunch. It began with a formal welcome at the University Senate House where Chinese students gathered to meet him and he was presented with a book by the Vice-Chancellor. He then went to the School of Oriental Studies where he met Prof Joseph Needham, a world authority on China, and presented the department with 3,000 valuable volumes. But he decided to miss a visit to the Science Park. 85 06 08a

1986 06 12

Prince Edward battles to save Cambridge Youth Theatre – 86 06 12a

1985 06 14

Princess Anne, Prince Edward and Prince Philip all together at Jesus College – 85 06 14b & c

1986 06 16

Clown Prince Edward had a right royal audience as he trod the Cambridge boards for the last time as an undergraduate. To the amazement and delight of the Arts Theatre audience, his brother Prince Charles, cousin Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones and Prince Andrew's fiancée Sarah Ferguson, made a surprise visit to the comic show. They watched him caper through comic sketches, musical numbers and songs with the rest of the Cambridge University Light Entertainment Society cast then spent 45 minutes backstage before leaving for London 86 06 16

1986 06 27

Prince Edward bids farewell to Cambridge – interview 86 06 27a & b

1986 07 24

The bunting was out and champagne corks popped as Sarah Ferguson and the new Duke of York tied the Royal Knot. Everyone from Brownies to Cambridge office workers were in the mood for a patriotic fling. At Addenbrooke's Hospital there was a festive air as celebrations started in every ward and elsewhere dances and even a mock wedding reception were the order of the day. Flags were strung across Roselea in Impington where one of several street parties went with a regal swing. 86 07 24a & b

1987

1987 04 16

Queen distributes Maundy money, Ely Cathedral – 87 04 16

1987 07 23

The Queen Mother became just another Cambridge tourist for a few moments – and won cheers from a waiting crowd. She paused on the famous Mathematical Bridge to wave to a convoy of four punts chained together as they passed gracefully along the Cam. She was visiting Queens' College to mark the restoration of the President's Lodge, the only half-timbered college building in Cambridge. Lunch – at a college which is now health-conscious in its cuisine – was melon and king prawns, then chicken and truffles. 87 07 23

1987 09 31

Princess Margaret at Fitzwilliam Museum – 87 09 31

1988

1988 02 17

Prince Charles meets sponsors of Cambridge Enterprise Agency – 88 02 17a

1988 04 11

Queen Mother opens art exhibition at Fitzwilliam Museum celebrating National Art-Collections fund – 88 04 11

1988 06 07

Princess Diana visited Papworth and Newmarket hospitals 88 06 07b, 88 06 08

1988 07 14

Protest at visit of President of Turkey [CEN 14.7.88]

1989

1989 08 01

Princess Diana opened Cherry Hinton Village Centre 89 08 01

1990

1990 05 14

Prince Edward receives MA degree – 90 05 14a

1990 07 05

Duke of Edinburgh opens Ditchburn Place – 90 07 05c, 06, 09b

1990 07 18

Quayside shops and office development formally opened by Duke of Edinburgh – 90 07 18a

1990 08 02

Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother – visits to Cambridge recalled – 90 08 02a